

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 05555 091015Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /059 W

-----027121 091252Z /43

R 090950Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4934

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TAIPEI 5555

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TW, US

SUBJECT: ROC LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN

REF: TAIPEI 4890

1. THE ROC LETTER CAMPAIGN AGAINST NORMALIZATION WHICH PRODUCED SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND LETTERS TO PRESIDENT CARTER APPEARS TO HAVE GROUND TO A HALT IN THE WEEK FOLLOWING SECRETARY VANCE'S RETURN FROM PEKING. EVEN THOUGH THE CHINESE DAILY LIEN HO PAO (LHP), ONE OF THE PRINCPW FGINS BEHCD THSCAMPAIGN, IS STILL URGING ITS READERS TO CONTINUE SENDING LETTERS, ENTHUSIASM HAS COOLED AND THE ISSUE HAS LOST PROMINENT BILLING IN THE LOCAL PRESS.

2. THOSE INVOLVED IN THE CAMPAIGN OBVIOUSLY BELIEVED THAT IT WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN INFLUENCING U.S. GOVERNMENT OPINION BEFORE THE PEKING TRIP. BECAUSE THIS PERCEPTION IS SHARED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 05555 091015Z

BY THE GROC, THERE IS EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE CAMPAIGN TO INFLUENCE U.S. PLIC AND OFKICIAL ATTITUDES TOWARD TAIWAN WILL CONTINUE ALBEIT IN DIFFERENT FORM (SEE TAIPEI 5338). HOWEVER, WE ARE MORE INCLINED TO THINK THAT A SEPARATE REPORT ON THE SWITCH TO MORE SELECTIVE MEANS TO INFLUENCE OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES IS IN PREPARATION.

3. ON AUGUST 23 THE LHP REPORTED FIGURES RELEASED BY ROC POST OFFICE THAT 221,027 LETTERS WERE SENT TO PRESIDENT CARTER AND OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN JULY 24 AND AUGUST 22. ESTIMATES ARE THAT UP TO 300,000 LETTERS MAY HAVE BEEN POSTED. DURING APPROXIMATELY THE SAME PERIOD, EMBASSY TAIPEI RECEIVED OVER 2,000 LETTERS. WHILE IMPOSSIBLE TO COMPILE ACCURATE STATISTICS, IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THE WIDESPREAD POPULAR ACCEPTANCE AND SUPPORT OF THE CAMPAIGN AMONG ALL LEVELS OF SOCIETY. IT PROVIDED AN OCCASION FOR PARTICIPATORY PATRIOTISM BY GOQS AND CITIZENS RANGING FROM UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO TAXI DRIVERS AND STREET VENDORS DURING THE PERIOD OF PRE-VISIT TENSION. EVEN PRISONERS WERE ENCOURAGED TO WRITE (AND WE KNOW OF ONE INSTANCE IN WHICH AN AMERICAN INMATE WAS ASKED TO HELP ADDRESS LETTERS). FORM LETTERS WERE DISTRIBUTED IN MANY OFFICES AND FACTORIES, WITH THE LHP AND CHINA TRUST AND INVESTMENT CORPORATION OFFERING TO FORWARD LETTERS. ORGANIZED CAMPAIGNS IN THE U.S. SUCH AS ADVERTISEMENTS PRINTED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES AND WASHINGTON POST AND ACTIVITIES OF PRO-ROC GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS WERE REPORTED BY THE PRESS HERE AS ENCOURAGEMENT TO LETTER WRITERS. SAMPLE FORMATS AND SUGGESTED TOPICS WERE PRESENTED BY A VARIETY OF COLUMNISTS, EDITORS, AND SELF-STYLED ADVISORS, INCLUDING A FEW AMERICAN RESIDENTS SYMPATHETIC TO THE ROC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TAIPEI 05555 091015Z

CAUSE.
SULLIVAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TAIPEI05555
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770327-0103
Format: TEL
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770978/aaaacomh.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1cfe0d49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TAIPEI 4890
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1322521
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROC LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN
TAGS: PINT, TW, US, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1cfe0d49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009